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RURAL DISTRICT OF  
RINGWOOD AND FORDINGBRIDGE

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# ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Senior Sanitary Inspector  
and Surveyor

FOR THE YEAR

1951





RURAL DISTRICT OF  
RINGWOOD AND FORDINGBRIDGE

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

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## PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

### *Medical Officer of Health:*

D. J. N. McNAB, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

(also Medical Officer of Health of Borough of Christchurch and an  
Assistant County Medical Officer for the County of Hampshire)

### *Senior Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor:*


R. A. UPSTONE, Cert. R.S.I.

### *Additional Sanitary Inspectors:*

W. W. DYSON, Cert. R.S.I.

S. MAHER, Cert. R.S.I.

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# RURAL DISTRICT OF RINGWOOD AND FORDINGBRIDGE

## ANNUAL REPORT

### for the year 1951

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF RINGWOOD AND FORDINGBRIDGE.

I submit for your information and consideration my fifth Annual Report on the health and circumstances of your district.

#### Natural and Social Conditions

The Rural District of Ringwood and Fordingbridge comprises a strip of country some six to nine miles wide and sixteen miles long along the western border of Hampshire. It includes the valley of the Avon throughout its whole course in Hampshire until it reaches the Borough of Christchurch. The terrain varies from the typical chalk downs of the north to the fertile river valley with forest and open barren heathland on either side.

Geologically the district in the main is made up of the Eocene formation known as the Bracklesham beds and the Bagshot sands.

Agriculture with the emphasis on milk production is the principal occupation, but a considerable number of varied light industries exist throughout the area in the larger centres of population. Hurn Airport is assuming the position of a small industrial estate with several major sources of employment, for which the greatest proportion of the labour is imported daily from outside the district.

The District contains sixteen parishes and has a rising population which has now reached an estimated 23,970. The total area comprises 90,140 acres, approximately 140 square miles.

#### RAINFALL FOR 1951.

		<i>ins.</i>			<i>ins.</i>
January	..	3.79	July	..	1.74
February	..	5.98	August	..	5.09
March	..	4.41	September	..	4.45
April	..	3.29	October	..	1.99
May	..	2.79	November	..	11.25
June	..	0.46	December	..	3.16

TOTAL: 48.40 ins.



## GENERAL STATISTICS.

AREA: 90,140 acres.

POPULATION: Registrar-General's estimate for mid-year 1951, 23,970.

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES: Approximately 7,303.

RATEABLE VALUE at 1.10.51: £148,156.

SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE, 1951-52: £593 11s. 5d.

## VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1951: (as supplied by the Registrar-General):

LIVE BIRTHS.				Total	Male	Female
Total ..	..	..	..	414	207	207
Legitimate ..	..	..	..	389	194	195
Illegitimate ..	..	..	..	25	13	12
STILL BIRTHS.						
Total ..	..	..	..	11	8	3
Legitimate ..	..	..	..	9	7	2
Illegitimate ..	..	..	..	2	1	1
DEATHS.						
Total ..	..	..	..	300	156	144
INFANT MORTALITY.						
(Deaths under 1 year of age).						
Total ..	..	..	..	5	3	2
Legitimate ..	..	..	..	5	3	2
Illegitimate ..	..	..	..	—	—	—
(Deaths under 4 weeks of age).						
Total ..	..	..	..	3	2	1
Legitimate ..	..	..	..	3	2	1
Illegitimate ..	..	..	..	—	—	—
MATERNAL MORTALITY.						
Deaths from maternal causes	..	..	..	—	—	—

## COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS.

	Ringwood and Fordingbridge Rural District	England and Wales
BIRTH RATE (Comparability Factor 1.08)		
per 1,000 estimated population ..	17.3	15.5
after application of Comparability Factor .. ..	18.6	
STILL-BIRTH RATE.		
per 1,000 population .. ..	0.46	0.36
DEATH RATE (Comparability Factor 0.79)		
per 1,000 population .. ..	12.5	12.5
after application of Comparability Factor .. ..	9.9	



# INFANT MORTALITY RATE:

(under 1 year of age):

All causes per 1,000 live births .. 12.1 29.6

# MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE:

per 1,000 total (live and still) births — 0.79

# SPECIAL CAUSES.

Death Rate per 1,000 population:

Typhoid and paratyphoid .. — 0.00

Whooping Cough .. .. — 0.01

Diphtheria .. .. — 0.00

Influenza .. .. 0.33 0.38

Smallpox .. .. — 0.00

Acute Poliomyelitis including  
Polioencephalitis .. .. — 0.00

Pneumonia .. .. 0.63 0.61

Tuberculosis .. .. 0.21 0.31

# COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS.

(Since the District was formed in 1932).

Year	Popu- lation	Ringwood & Fordingbridge			England and Wales		
		I.M.R.	B.R.	D.R.	I.M.R.	B.R.	D.R.
1932	18,400	59.8	15.4	12.6	65	15.3	12
1936	18,640	48.2	13.3	13.1	59	14.8	12.1
1940	20,430	45.1	14.1	13.2	55	14.6	14.3
1944	19,520	25.3	16.2	12.6	46	17.6	11.6
1947	21,360	36	22.09	13.6	41	20.5	12
1948	22,270	28	20.29	10.8	34	17.9	10.8
1949	22,590	16	18.64	12.6	32	16.7	11.7
1950	23,220	22	17.6	12.8	30	15.8	11.6
1951	23,970	12	17.3	12.5	29	15.5	12.5

# CAUSES OF DEATH.

				Males	Females
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	2	2
2.	Tuberculosis, other	..	..	—	1
3.	Syphilitic disease	..	..	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	..	..	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	..	..	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	..	..	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	..	..	—	—
8.	Measles	..	..	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	..	..	—	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	..	..	3	2
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	..	..	9	—

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	..	..	—	7
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..	—	4
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms			13	10
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	..	..	1	1
16.	Diabetes	..	..	1	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system		..	14	27
18.	Coronary disease, angina	..	..	26	18
19.	Hypertension with heart disease		..	3	1
20.	Other heart diseases	..	..	34	27
21.	Other circulatory disease	..	..	9	4
22.	Influenza	..	..	—	8
23.	Pneumonia	..	..	7	8
24.	Bronchitis	..	..	6	6
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system		..	—	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum		..	3	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea		..	—	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	1	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	5	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	..	..	1	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases		..	10	11
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	4	2
34.	All other accidents	..	..	3	1
35.	Suicide	..	..	1	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war		..	—	—
TOTAL (all causes)				156	144

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.

Two only of the notifiable infectious diseases showed any marked preponderance throughout the year, that is whooping cough and measles. Whooping cough presented the biggest outbreak since 1941 and there were six times as many cases as in 1950. No deaths occurred from the infection. This was a measles year when as was to be expected a large number of cases occurred, fewer however than the total recorded two years previously. There were no deaths.

The pneumonia figure remained relatively high, but as explained in a previous report, this can be accounted for by the disproportionately large number of elderly people who reside in the area.

It is particularly satisfactory to record that once again no case of diphtheria occurred throughout the year. It is now six years since a bacteriologically confirmed case occurred in this district.

For the first year since 1946 no case of poliomyelitis was notified. This was a year of low prevalence throughout the country as a whole.

Notifications	Number	Rate per 1,000 of the population	
		Ringwood and Fordingbridge	England and Wales
Scarlet Fever .. ..	6	0.25	1.11
Whooping Cough .. ..	148	6.17	3.87
Diphtheria .. ..	—	—	0.02
Erysipelas .. ..	1	0.04	0.14
Measles .. ..	372	15.52	14.07
Pneumonia .. ..	29	1.21	0.99
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) .. ..	—	—	0.03
(Non-Paralytic) .. ..	—	—	0.02
Meningococcal infection .. ..	—	—	0.03
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. ..	1	0.04	—
Food Poisoning .. ..	—	—	0.13

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The number of children immunised during the year has shown a substantial drop as compared with the previous three years. This must be attributed in part to a false sense of security among the public engendered by the continued drop in the prevalence of diphtheria throughout the country. In addition the overworked general practitioner has little time to give to preventive measures, and there is less inducement now than formerly to encourage him to do this work.

During the year 314 children were immunised for the first time, of these 263 were under the age of five and 51 were over five. In addition 273 children previously immunised received refresher doses.

The proportion of children born within the previous twelve months who have been immunised is 48.3%. 68.9% of children under the age of 15 have at one time or another been immunised.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

The Tuberculosis services in the area are conducted jointly by the Regional Hospital Board and by the County Council. The Chest Physicians have a joint appointment and the tuberculosis health visitor is employed by the County Council. Patients in this area who live south of Fordingbridge come under the care of the Chest Physician at Christchurch and are seen at the clinic there, cases north of Fordingbridge are seen by the Chest Physician at Salisbury.

The total number of cases on the register at 31.12.51 was 177.

<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	
<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
67	59	36	15



## NEW CASES AND MORTALITY, 1947-51.

	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
1947	12	5	3	1	4	4	0	1
1948	13	5	3	2	3	2	0	0
1949	12	14	2	2	3	4	2	1
1950	17	17	8	2	4	5	1	0
1951	8	8	4	1	2	2	0	1

During the year a Tuberculosis Care Committee was established under the chairmanship of Lady Manners to serve the area covered by the Christchurch Chest Clinic, that is virtually this Rural District together with the Boroughs of Christchurch and Lymington. The function of such a committee is to provide additional comforts for tuberculous patients over and above those available from the statutory allowances. The committee is composed of representatives from the different districts together with representatives from various voluntary organisations in the area. The committee obtains an annual grant from the County Council, and in addition raises funds by collecting donations from individuals and organisations, and particularly by the sale of Christmas Seals published by the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis. The committee is an active one and has already done much useful work in the short time it has been in existence.

## MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

A mass radiography unit from the South West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board under the direction of Dr. J. Stuart Robertson visited Ringwood for two weeks in February, and Fordingbridge for a further week in March. The public response was reasonably good. Nearly 2,000 people were x-rayed and only two cases of active tuberculosis were discovered.

The following tables, showing the work carried out, together with the findings, have been kindly supplied by the Medical Director.

## 1. THE LECTURE HALL, RINGWOOD.

	<i>Adults</i>		<i>Children</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	
Total number x-rayed ..	604	700	36	29	1369
Recalled for large film ..	33	29	—	2	64
Recalled for Clinical exam.	6	10	—	1	17
No abnormality detected or no further action necessary after examina- tion of large film ..	27	23	—	1	51
Referred to Chest Clinic..	1	4	—	—	5

Referred to private doctor or to Hospital ..	4	2	—	1	7
Did not attend for Large Film .. ..	1	—	—	—	1
Number of active cases found after investiga- tion at Chest Clinic ..	—	2	—	—	2

## 2. FORDINGBRIDGE — TERRITORIAL DRILL HALL.

	<i>Adults</i>		<i>Children</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	
Total number x-rayed ..	220	250	26	15	511
Recalled for Large Film	5	10	—	2	17
Recalled for Clinical exam.	1	5	—	1	7
No abnormality detected, or no further action necessary .. ..	4	7	—	1	12
Referred to Chest Clinic ..	—	—	—	—	—
Referred to doctor or Hospital .. ..	—	2	—	1	3
Check up film advised ..	—	1	—	—	1
Did not attend for Large Film .. ..	1	—	—	—	1
No. of active tuberculosis cases .. ..	—	—	—	—	—

## LABORATORY FACILITIES.

During the year the Public Health Laboratory at Poole moved to more commodious premises in the grounds of the former infectious diseases hospital at Boscombe. The laboratory remains under the direction of Dr. G. J. G. King whose active co-operation in the control of infectious disease is of immense value to us.

Below is a list which he has kindly supplied of the specimens originating from this District which were examined in his laboratory throughout the year.

Faeces and Urine .. ..	1
Water .. ..	59
Milk .. ..	32
Ice Cream .. ..	116
Miscellaneous .. ..	1
	<hr/>
	209
	<hr/>

## WATER SUPPLIES.

The greater part of the District is supplied with water from the mains of the West Hampshire Water Company which has extensive works situated within the Borough of Christchurch. The

Company draws its raw water from the Avon and treats it by slow sand filtration and chloramination. The resultant water is of satisfactory purity and the supply is constant and adequate.

The supply to the Linwood area was completed during the year and Breamore now remains the only large area still not supplied with main water. Agreement with the Water Company has still not been reached and this is a matter for concern and regret in view of the number of polluted wells in the Breamore area.

During the year 59 samples were taken from premises not supplied with main water; 32 of these were found to be polluted. Statutory notices were served in connexion with 13 premises.

The following list gives the number of premises, in parishes, supplied with main water as recorded by the Water Company together with a number of converted war-time huts supplied through central meters.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Dwellings supplied direct</i>			<i>Approximate population supplied</i>
Martin .. ..	79			277
Rockbourne .. ..	77			269
Whitsbury .. ..	58			203
Breamore .. ..	nil			nil
Hale .. ..	112			392
Woodgreen .. ..	110			385
Damerham .. ..	91			318
Fordingbridge .. ..	998	plus 3 huts		3503
Harbridge and Ibsley .. ..	119	plus 126 huts		857
Ellingham .. ..	80	plus 16 huts		336
St. Leonards and St. Ives .. ..	413	plus 5 huts		1463
Ringwood .. ..	1952			6832
Burley .. ..	432			1512
Hurn .. ..	30	plus 82 huts		392
Sopley .. ..	185	plus 59 huts		854
Christchurch East .. ..	665	plus 320 huts		3447

## SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

No alteration has taken place during the year at the Ringwood Sewage works. 1951 was an abnormally wet year, particularly in the latter half and the usual difficulties were experienced in the disposal of the immense volumes of fluid which reach the works and which have to be disposed of by land irrigation. I have previously drawn attention to the undesirable conditions which obtain at times, and as a result of this and of an unfavourable report presented by Mr. E. Kitney, a firm of consulting engineers has been approached with a view to preparing a scheme for presentation to the Council providing for the full treatment of the sewage reaching



the works, with the eventual aim of eliminating the now outmoded system of land irrigation which has served the Council so well for so long.

Night soil from Fordingbridge continues to be composted at Ringwood and the resultant product sold at an economic price.

Considerable delays have occurred in the work on the Fordingbridge Sewerage Scheme to such an extent that it is now impossible to forecast when the work will be completed. Difficulties have arisen, and as these are matters of contention between the Contractor and the Council, I deem it wise not to enlarge on the matter at the present juncture. It is singularly unfortunate since this scheme has been a crying need in the town for many years and hopes had run high that it would have been in operation by now.

## MILK AND DAIRIES.

Although milk production is a staple industry in this area the Council has no control over the manner in which this important and readily contaminated food is produced and handled before it reaches the retailer. Supervision is carried out by officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries whose inclination is likely to be more towards the increase of production rather than hygienic handling.

The following details concerning milk producers in the area have been kindly supplied by Mr. F. B. Russ, Milk Regulations Officer of the Hampshire Agricultural Executive Committee.

	<i>1st Jan., 1951</i>	<i>31st Dec., 1951</i>
Registered Producers .. ..	302	293
Holders of T.T. Licences .. ..	104	113
Holders of Accredited Licences ..	49	44

The continued increase in the number of T.T. licences is most satisfactory.

The Council exercises supervision over the retail distribution of milk in the area, and details concerning registered distributors are given in Mr. Upstone's section of this report.

The Council supervises, on behalf of the County Council, the one pasteurising plant operating in the District. This plant is efficient and is satisfactorily operated.

## SLAUGHTER HOUSE.

Further minor improvements have been made in the slaughter house and it may be that the best has been made of the existing building. The fact remains that it is ill suited for bulk slaughtering and is only acceptable as a temporary expedient. Meat inspection is carried out under cramped and unsatisfactory conditions and is normally only practicable after slaughtering has ceased.

3,232 animals were slaughtered during the year, a reduction on the previous year's total in all classes of animal except pigs, where there was a 25% increase.

### MEAT INSPECTION.

Thorough inspection of all carcasses is carried out by your inspectors at the slaughterhouse. As a result of this inspection over 16 tons of meat were condemned as unfit for human consumption. This was a 28.6% decrease on last year's record total, accounted for, not so much by an improvement in the quality of meat, but by the decrease in the number of animals slaughtered. Tuberculosis is by far the major cause of condemnation, more than all the other causes put together; over 8 tons of meat were condemned from this cause alone.

### CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED, 1951.

	<i>Cattle excl. Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed .. ..	689	357	410	1514	262
Number inspected .. ..	689	357	410	1514	262
<b>ALL DISEASE EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS:</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	5	8	3	4	36
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	279	180	2	120	64
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ..	41.2%	52.6%	1.2%	8.1%	38.1%
<b>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	7	12	—	—	6
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	94	125	—	—	19
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis .. .. .	14.6%	38.3%	—	—	9.5%

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

The County Council is the sampling authority and the following details of substances sampled within this area during the year ended 31st March, 1952, have been kindly supplied by the Chief Inspector, Mr. C. O. Perry.

<i>Article</i>	<i>No. of samples taken</i>	
	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
Butter and Other Fats .. ..	7	—
Drugs .. ..	3	—
Sausages and Other Meat Products	5	—
Spirits .. ..	5	1
Other Foods .. ..	11	—
Milk .. ..	72	4
Total .. ..	103	5

The 72 Genuine Milk Samples contained an average of 3.90% of Milk Fat and 8.61% Non-Fatty Solids.

#### UNSATISFACTORY SAMPLES.

A sample of Gin purchased from a Licensed Victualler at Damerham on the 18/12/51 was certified to contain 16% of excess water.

The defendant pleaded guilty and stated that the optic measure from which the gin was supplied had just been washed, and the only suggestion for the excess water in the gin, that could be offered, was that the measure was full of water when the purchase was made. The purchase was three doubles, and as the optic delivered one single at a time, the Inspector instead of receiving three double gins actually was supplied with one single water and five single gins.

Result:—The defendant was conditionally discharged and ordered to pay £1 1s. 0d. costs.

A sample of milk purchased from a dairyman at Fordingbridge on the 10.1.52 was certified to contain 6% of added water, later the same day two further samples were taken from a producer at Fordingbridge on delivery to the dairyman in question and certified to contain 4.2% and 9.8% of added water respectively, a further sample taken the following day from the producer proved to contain 2.4% of added water.

Proceedings were taken against the dairyman for selling the sample containing 6% of added water and he charged the producers as the actual offenders.

Result:—The case brought by the dairyman against the producers was dismissed without costs and the dairyman was given an absolute discharge and ordered to pay £10 10s. 0d. costs plus the Court costs.

#### FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES.

Routine inspection of food premises has continued throughout the year and your inspectors have used such visits to pursue their functions as health educators, with particular reference to the



cleanly handling of food. They have been assisted in this by the new byelaws which have served to emphasise the food handlers duties and responsibilities.

### ICE CREAM.

Your inspectors continue to pay the closest attention to the conditions under which ice cream is sold and stored, and regular sampling takes place, principally during the warmer months. There are now 76 registered ice cream retailers in the District. It is pleasing to record that the progressive improvement previously noted in the cleanliness of ice cream has been maintained, and that in fact a further substantial improvement has occurred. Less than 5% of the samples taken fell into the unsatisfactory grades. The following table shows the results of the Methylene Blue test on ice cream samples from this District during the past five years. The progressive improvement could hardly be more clearly demonstrated and reflects great credit on the trade.

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of samples</i>	<i>Grade 1</i> SATISFACTORY	<i>Grade 2</i>	<i>Grade 3</i> UNSATISFACTORY	<i>Grade 4</i>
1947	26	30.8%	23%	30.8%	15.4%
1948	53	41.5%	24.5%	17.0%	17.0%
1949	196	53.1%	16.3%	15.8%	14.8%
1950	140	79.3%	10.7%	7.1%	2.9%
1951	116	92.2%	3.5%	2.6%	1.7%

### FOOD POISONING.

No confirmed case of food poisoning occurred during the year. One suspected case was notified but investigations proved entirely negative.

### SCHOOLS.

No notable change has taken place in any of the nineteen schools throughout the District. Waterborne sanitation remains available at only three of the schools and in many cases the buildings are old, outmoded and sometimes overcrowded. School meals are available at all schools and in the majority are eaten in the class rooms.

### CHILD WELFARE.

One new Child Welfare Centre was opened by the County Council at Hurn during the year, principally to supply the needs of the hut dwellers. This centre was made possible through the enthusiasm of a small band of voluntary workers and fulfils a long felt want. A further four County Council centres are maintained throughout the area staffed by assistant county medical officers and

health visitors. A centre at Burley is conducted by the local general practitioner. In all cases the administration of the centres and the sale and distribution of welfare foods and medicaments is conducted by a committee of voluntary workers, without whose invaluable assistance the work could not continue.

<i>Child Welfare Centre</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Time</i>
Breamore	Woodgreen Hall	First Thursday in month at 2.30 p.m.
Fordingbridge	Victoria Rooms	First and Third Tuesday in month at 2.30 p.m.
Ringwood	Conway Hall	First and Third Wednesday in month at 2.30 p.m.
Bransgore	Harrow Hill Hut	First and Third Thursday in month at 2.30 p.m.
Hurn	Village Hall	Second and Fourth Wednesday in month at 2.30 p.m.

#### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 47.

It did not prove necessary to take action under this section during the year. Five cases were considered at one time or another but in collaboration with the Area Welfare Officer it was possible to avoid compulsion. The provision of a Home Help will often help an aged person to remain at home and so preserve the sturdy independence of the aged which is frequently so marked a characteristic. Moreover a Home Help is considerably less expensive for the local health authority than the cost of maintaining such an aged person in an institution.

I would here pay my tribute to the Area Welfare Officer, Miss Swift, who has worked untiringly in the interests of the aged and has given much service outwith the normal call of duty.

#### THORNEY HILL COMPOUND.

The conditions under which the inhabitants of this compound live showed no material improvement throughout the year. Indeed since the year was an abnormally wet one it might be said that the dirt and squalor appeared worse than it might otherwise have done. The one encouraging circumstance is that there has been a marked decrease in the numbers dwelling in the Compound, largely as a result of the rehousing of substantial numbers in huts at Holmsley. A count taken towards the end of the year showed that only nine families remained—some 53 persons in all. The Thorney Hill Compound at one time housed the largest number of so-called



gipsies in the Forest—in 1942 there were 161 inhabitants. The roundworm infestation, of which so much has been said in the past, remains prevalent but Dr. Howard has latterly felt that he is not being asked to see cases so often. Whether this is due to any real decrease in the prevalence appears doubtful, but it would be pleasing if we could feel that some result had come from our prolonged and persistent campaign to encourage the people to cease the indiscriminate soiling of the ground which has been their undoing.

During the year Mr. Lingren, the then Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Minister of Housing and Town Planning, paid a visit to the New Forest to discuss with the Council, and with the New Forest R.D.C., the position and condition of New Forest compound dwellers. He paid a full visit to Thorney Hill Compound and spoke to a number of the shack dwellers. No final decisions were reached, but I felt that the Ministry now had first hand knowledge and was better able to assess the magnitude of the problem.

## HOUSING.

Housing remains a major problem, and though there has been some apparent reduction in the waiting list, it still remains at the formidable figure of approximately 780, including the majority of the hut dwellers. When it is considered that in the past five years the Council has been able to build less than 300 houses, it is evident that the waiting period for many is indefinite. It has also to be remembered that we now have 350 families living in temporary hutted accommodation, markedly sub-standard housing, and that a great many of these people will have to be housed sooner rather than later. No other authority will accept responsibility for our tenants of several years standing. The social effects of years of living in a Nissen hut are bound to be degenerative, and I feel that hut dwellers of long duration should in general receive priority for permanent housing or for private licences should they wish to build themselves. There is a danger that the situation in relation to hutted sites, not only here but elsewhere, may assume the proportions of a public scandal unless some definite national policy is laid down directed towards rehousing the inhabitants as a matter of priority.

No. on Housing Waiting List at 31.12.51	..	780
No. on Waiting List for Huts at 31.12.51	..	100
No. of Council Houses completed in 1951	..	42
No. of Private Houses completed in 1951	..	11

### *Dwellings administered by the Council at 31.12.51:—*

Permanent Houses	..	..	424
Prefabs.	..	..	50
Requisitioned Houses (family units)			40
Huts (family units)	..		350



## HOUSING ACT INSPECTIONS.

1.	<i>Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:—</i>	
	Total No. of dwelling houses inspected for house defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .. .. .	112
	No. of inspections made for the purpose .. .. .	417
	No. of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .. .. .	79
2.	<i>Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:—</i>	
	No. of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ..	12
3.	<i>Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—</i>	
	<i>Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—</i>	
	No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs .. .. .	Nil
	<i>Proceedings under the Public Health Act:—</i>	
	No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .. .. .	1
	<i>Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—</i>	
	No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .. .. .	Nil
	No. of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted .. .. .	Nil

## HURN AIRPORT.

Hurn Airport as a passenger airport continues to be used almost exclusively for the reception of aircraft diverted from their normal terminals, usually on account of unsuitable weather, the principal reason being fog in the London area. For this reason arrivals are normally most heavy in November, December and January. When a bad spell of weather does occur the activity is usually intense and the passenger reception facilities are barely sufficient to cope with the situation. The inevitable result is a crop of complaints from disgruntled passengers that there is undue delay in passenger handling. Such complaints are, I believe, more often due basically to the passengers disappointment at finding himself landed nearly 100 miles from his destination. I have felt on occasion that such passengers might well be grateful for finding themselves safely on the ground in view of the weather encountered.

Proposals to increase the passenger reception accommodation were discussed early in the year, and deferred, pending more permanent arrangements.

Medical inspection of passengers on arrival was carried out by Dr. W. D. Higson, Dr. C. Conyers Morrell and Dr. D. MacIntyre. In addition, I have carried out all calls at night and on occasions when none of the other medical officers were available. An arrangement has been reached with the Home Office whereby the Immigration Officer will carry out certain health control duties in the absence of a medical inspector. This relates largely to aircraft arriving from Europe and North America and the need will seldom arise.

The number of aircraft arriving from abroad showed a decrease from the previous year but the number of passengers increased.

No case of the five "Convention" diseases arrived at the airport during the year.

#### ARRIVALS, 1951.

<i>Month</i>		<i>No. of aircraft</i>	<i>No. of crew</i>	<i>No. of British Passengers</i>	<i>No. of Alien Passengers</i>
January ..		17	116	179	113
February ..		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
March ..		4	27	74	18
April ..		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
May ..		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
June ..		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
July ..		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
August ..		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
September ..		1	21	3	Nil
October ..		2	6	6	Nil
November ..		1	4	14	1
December ..		35	263	397	258
TOTAL ..		60	437	673	390

#### STATE OF EMPLOYMENT.

The following figures showing the state of employment and unemployment in the area served by the Ringwood and Fordingbridge Employment Exchanges have been kindly supplied by Mr. E. J. Birden, the Manager of the Ringwood Employment Exchange. The area includes a small part of Dorset close to the Hampshire boundary but does not include the parishes of Hurn, Sopley and Christchurch East which are served by the Christchurch Employment Exchange. The unemployment figures do not include young persons under the age of 18 years.

1. The number of unemployed persons over 18 years of age registered at the Ringwood and Fordingbridge Employment Exchanges during 1951, were as follows:—

		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
January ..		73	18
February ..		54	16
March ..		48	12
April ..		46	15
May ..		32	10
June ..		24	5
July ..		24	6
August ..		28	7
September ..		26	25
October ..		39	15
November ..		56	13
December ..		47	8

2. The *approximate* numbers of insured employees in the Ringwood and Fordingbridge areas at mid-1951, based on the number of National Insurance Cards exchanged by the Ringwood National Insurance Office, were as follows:—

<i>Industry</i>	<i>Males</i>		<i>Females</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>18 and over</i>	<i>Under 18</i>	<i>18 and over</i>	<i>Under 18</i>	
Agriculture and Horticulture .. ..	973	80	89	28	1170
Forestry .. ..	79	12	13	—	104
Motor Repairs and Garages .. ..	87	32	8	—	127
Timber (Sawmilling, etc.) .. ..	98	—	—	—	98
Building, civil engineering and electrical contracting .. ..	564	56	12	4	636
Distributive Trades .. ..	226	20	166	68	480
Iron Foundries .. ..	223	—	30	—	253
National and Local Government Services	110	—	31	—	141
Insurance and Banking .. ..	116	—	27	—	143
Professional Services .. ..	102	4	259	—	365
Hotel and Catering Trades .. ..	63	—	135	4	202
Domestic Services .. ..	252	12	463	28	755
Transport and communications .. ..	131	8	20	8	167
Other Industries and Services .. ..	610	36	196	36	878
TOTALS .. ..	3634	260	1449	176	5519

3. Approximate percentage of male and female workers over 18 years of age who were registered as unemployed.

1951	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
March .. ..	1.3	0.8
June .. ..	0.7	0.3
September .. ..	0.7	1.7
December .. ..	1.3	0.5

## GENERAL REMARKS.

The health of the area has been satisfactory throughout the year.

The incidence of whooping cough and measles was high. Other infectious diseases were negligible.

The population has further increased. The census figure was 23,908.

The Death Rate showed little change from that of the two previous years and was identical with the national figure. The Birth Rate fell for the fourth successive year but remains higher than that for England and Wales. The Infant Mortality Rate was the lowest ever recorded.



The housing situation remains serious particularly in view of the large number of inhabitants of temporary hutted accommodation within the District.

The progress of the Fordingbridge Sewerage Scheme is distressingly slow.

In conclusion, I wish once again to thank the Chairman and the members of the Council for their support and encouragement, the Clerk for his helpful advice and guidance, and the Senior Sanitary Inspector and his staff for their loyal co-operation throughout the year.

D. J. N. McNAB,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

July, 1952.

# FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1951 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF RINGWOOD AND FORDINGBRIDGE.

## Part I of the Act.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	32	9	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. .. .	119	180	3	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .. .. .	—	—	—	—
TOTAL .. .. .	151	189	3	—

## 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

E. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND					
Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)					
Overcrowding (S.2) ..					
Unreasonable temp. (S.3)					
Inad. ventilation (S.4) ..					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..					
Sanit'ry Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient ..	3	4	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective .. ..	2	2	—	1	—
(c) not separate for sexes					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) .. ..	6	6	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	11	12	—	1	—

## Part VIII of the Act.

## OUTWORK.

(Sections 110 and 111).

<i>Nature of work</i>	<i>Section 110</i>			<i>Section 111</i>		
	<i>No. of out-workers in Aug. list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i>	<i>No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists</i>	<i>No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Prosecutions</i>
Wearing apparel (Making etc.)	101	—	—	—	—	—
Cleaning and washing						



RURAL DISTRICT OF  
RINGWOOD AND FORDINGBRIDGE

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Senior Sanitary Inspector  
and Surveyor

FOR THE YEAR

1951

*Public Offices,  
Ringwood.  
July, 1952.*

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
RINGWOOD AND FORDINGBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report as your Senior Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor, dealing with work carried out by my Department during the year 1951.

### SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.

Water Supplies	..	..	..	..	336
Shops Act	..	..	..	..	141
Nuisances and Complaints	..	..	..	..	1192
Milk and Dairies	..	..	..	..	95
Factories Act	..	..	..	..	189
Meat and Foods	..	..	..	..	439
Slaughtermen's Licences	..	..	..	..	18
Food and Drugs Act	..	..	..	..	832
Licensed Premises	..	..	..	..	53
Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	21
Housing Acts	..	..	..	..	439
Movable Dwellings	..	..	..	..	444
Gipsy Encampments	..	..	..	..	35
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	83
Petroleum and Carbide	..	..	..	..	115
Services administered by the Council	..	..	..	..	811
Building Byelaws	..	..	..	..	1238
Building Licences	..	..	..	..	278
Small Dwelling Licences	..	..	..	..	58
Housing Estates	..	..	..	..	1539
Town Planning	..	..	..	..	375
Legal Proceedings	..	..	..	..	8
TOTAL VISITS AND INSPECTIONS					8739

### COMPLAINTS.

138 complaints of nuisances were received during the year, involving a total of 1,192 visits and inspections—details are as follows:—

<i>Nature of Nuisance</i>	<i>Complaints received</i>	<i>Number of visits</i>
Insanitary Conditions	32	103
Unsatisfactory and insufficient water supplies	5	20
Overcrowding	9	18

Gipsy Encampments	..	..	1	3
Smoke	..	..	1	4
Bug, flea or fly infestations	..	..	2	18
Offensive Smells	..	..	7	54
Cesspools and Drains	..	..	19	216
Milk and Dairies	..	..	1	9
Rats and Mice	..	..	44	373
Miscellaneous	..	..	13	338
Offensive Accumulations	..	..	4	36
			<hr/> 138	<hr/> 1192

Where a nuisance or defect is found to exist, an informal notice is served upon the person responsible; a procedure which generally proves effective. Two statutory notices only were served during the year.

#### WATER SUPPLIES.

Number of Visits and Inspections made	..	..	336
Number of Samples collected	..	..	59
Number of Samples unsatisfactory	..	..	32
Number of Statutory Notices served	..	..	13
Houses connected to main supply as a result of Informal Notices	..	..	8
Houses connected to main supply as a result of Statutory Notices	..	..	16
Houses provided with wholesome supplies other than mains as a result of Statutory or Informal Notices	..	..	Nil

#### SERVICES ADMINISTERED BY COUNCIL.

<i>Service</i>					<i>Visits made</i>
Refuse Disposal and Salvage	..	..	..	..	68
Sewage Disposal	..	..	..	..	368
Public Conveniences	..	..	..	..	191
Cattle Pound	..	..	..	..	14
Car Parks	..	..	..	..	49
Ditching	..	..	..	..	38
Street Name Plates	..	..	..	..	21
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	62
				<hr/>	811

#### SEWERAGE.

##### RINGWOOD SEWERAGE.

The Bickerley and Moortown Pumping Stations have been efficiently maintained during the year but disposal by land irrigation at the Sewage Works continues to be difficult particularly during periods of heavy rainfall.

The appointment of a foreman to take the place of Mr. E. Green has been deferred pending completion of the Fordingbridge Sewerage Scheme.

## NIGHT SOIL COLLECTIONS.

The Hampshire Cleansing Service carry out, on behalf of the Council, bi-weekly collections in the lighting area of Fordingbridge covering some 380 premises. The nightsoil is conveyed to the Ringwood Sewage Disposal Works there it is composted and sold.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING.

### REFUSE COLLECTIONS.

The Council undertake a combined collection of household and unburnable refuse weekly in the lighting areas of Ringwood and Fordingbridge. A collection of unburnable refuse only is carried out monthly in the remainder of the district. Receptacles have to be placed outside the premises as near as practicable to the roadway along which the collection vehicle proceeds.

The Council's vehicles covered a total mileage of 15,416 in connection with the collection of refuse.

The following Schedule shewing collection days is produced for the information of Councillors:—

### WEEKLY SERVICE.

#### *Lighting Area of the Parish of Ringwood.*

Bickerley, Carvers Lane, The Close, College Road, Collins Lane, Coxstone Lane, Deweys Lane, High Street, Hightown Road (from Christchurch Road to Quomp), Kings Arms Lane, Kingsbury Lane, Lynes Lane, Market Place, Meeting House Lane, Middle Lane, Northumberland Court, Nursery Road, Quomp, Riverside, School Lane, Star Lane, Strides Lane, Top Lane, West Street (part), Woodstock Lane	}	Every Monday
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Addison Square, Beechcroft Lane, Broadshard Lane, Christchurch Road (part), Cloughs Road, Duck Island, Eastfield Lane, East View Road, Fairlie, Fridays Cross, Gipsy Lane, Gravel Lane, Highfield Road, Hiltom Road, Hightown Road (from Quomp to Eastfield Lane), Hurst Corner, Manor Road, Meadow Road, Middleton Road, Morant Road, Mount Pleasant, New Street, North Poulner Road (part), Parsonage Barn Lane, Salisbury Road (part), Seymour Road, Southampton Road (part), Southfield, Wessex Road, Westbury Road	}	Every Tuesday
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#### *Lighting Area of the Parish of Fordingbridge.*

Albion Road, Alexandra Road, Ashford Road (part), Back Street, The Bartons, Bowerwood Road (part), Bridge Street, Church Street, Green Lane, High Street, Horseport, Jubilee Road, Market Place, Park Road, Provost Street, Roundhill, Salisbury Road (part), Salisbury Street, Shaftesbury Street, Station Road, St. George's Road, The Square, Victoria Road, Whitsbury Road (part), Waverley Road	}	Every Wednesday
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## MONTHLY SERVICE.

Breamore	..	..	..	..	First Friday
Burley (including area of Burley Street)	..	..	..	..	Fourth Friday
Christchurch East (including the areas of Winkton, Burton, Bransgore, Neacroft, Thorneyhill and Hinton Damerham)	..	..	..	..	Third Friday
Ellingham (including the areas of Blashford, Rockford, Highwood, Linwood, Linford and Shobley)	..	..	..	..	First Friday
Fordingbridge (non-lighting area) (including the areas of Burgate, Sandleheath, Bickton, North Gorley, Ogdens, Hungerford, Hyde, Frogham, Stuckton, Blissford and Godshill)	..	..	..	..	Third Thursday
Hale	..	..	..	..	Second Friday
Harbridge and Ibsley (including the areas of South Gorley, Furzehill, Mockbeggar, Ibsley, Harbridge Green, Bleak Hill and Turmer)	..	..	..	..	Second Thursday
Hurn (including the areas of Parley Green and East Parley)	..	..	..	..	Third Thursday
Martin	..	..	..	..	First Friday
Ringwood (non-lighting area) (including the areas of North Poulner, Hangersley, Hightown, Crow, Crow Hill, Moortown, Kingston, Sandford and Bisterne)..	..	..	..	..	Second Thursday
Rockbourne	..	..	..	..	Fourth Thursday
Sopley (including the areas of Avon, Ripley and Shirley)	..	..	..	..	Second Thursday
St. Leonards and St. Ives	..	..	..	..	First Friday
Whitsbury	..	..	..	..	First Thursday
Woodgreen	..	..	..	..	Second Thursday
	..	..	..	..	Second Thursday

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## REFUSE DISPOSAL.

The amount of refuse collected throughout the district is steadily increasing as will be seen from the following summary:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Ashley Dump Cubic Yards</i>	<i>Sandleheath Dump Cubic Yards</i>
1951 .. ..	7,413	3,272
1950 .. ..	6,008	2,857
1949 .. ..	4,625	2,282

## STREET CLEANSING.

The cleansing of streets in the town areas of Ringwood and Fordingbridge has been maintained during the year; the workmen employed on this work are only available after the completion of their refuse collection duties.

Special cleansing of the Market Place and High Street, Ringwood is necessary following the weekly Wednesday market.

## SALVAGE.

Salvage Sales for the year amounted to £1,674 6s. 5d.—details are shown in the following summary:—

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qtrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>Doz.</i>	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	109					1508	1	7
Textiles ..	2	18	0	10		97	0	3
Bones ..		5	3	0		1	13	1
Ferrous Metals	17	18	3	26		56	3	5
Non-ferrous Metals		2	3	2		7	2	1½
Bottles and Jars					246	4	5	11½
	130	5	2	10	246	£1674	6	5

Salvage Sales for previous years are shown below; the sales for the years 1942 and 1943 included large book drives.

	£
1941	414
1942	1208
1943	1089
1944	908
1945	574
1946	495
1947	342
1948	949
1949	740
1950	608

It will be appreciated that the salvage scheme forms a valuable source of revenue, particularly as no extra labour is employed for dealing with this work. Collections, sorting and baling is carried out by the workmen in conjunction with their refuse collection duties.

Special collections of salvage are made as and when necessary and the Council are operating a scheme in collaboration with the schools in the district whereby savings stamps are presented in exchange for waste paper.

The total amount of paper collected from the schools during the year amounted to 12 tons 15 cwts. 2 qtrs.

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The cleanliness of the conveniences at Ringwood has been maintained as satisfactorily as possible; abuse by the public still continues.

The Council contributes towards the cost of maintaining conveniences for use by the public at the Lamb Inn, Ringwood; the Greyhound Hotel and the New Inn, Fordingbridge.

## HOUSING

### HOUSING ACT, 1949—IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

Three applications for Improvement Grants received during the year were unsuccessful.



The Act provides for financial assistance to private owners for the improvement of existing houses and the provision of dwellings by works of conversion. In order to rank for an Improvement Grant the dwelling must provide satisfactory housing accommodation for at least 30 years and conform with the Ministry's standards.

The recommended standard is as follows but it is appreciated that in some rural areas the degree of application of the standard will be dependent on the public services which are available.

The dwelling should

1. be in all respects dry
2. be in a good state of repair
3. have each room properly lighted and ventilated
4. have an adequate supply of wholesome water laid on for all purposes
5. be provided with efficient and adequate means of supplying hot water for domestic purposes
6. have an internal or otherwise readily accessible water-closet
7. have a fixed bath, preferably in a separate room
8. be provided with a sink or sinks and with suitable arrangements for the disposal of waste water
9. be provided with facilities for domestic washing including a copper preferably in a separate room
10. have a proper drainage system
11. be provided with adequate points for artificial lighting in each room
12. be provided with adequate facilities for heating each habitable room
13. have satisfactory facilities for preparing and cooking food
14. have a well ventilated larder or food store
15. have proper provision for the storage of fuel
16. have a satisfactory surfaced path to outbuildings and convenient access from a street to the back door.

#### HOUSING ACT INSPECTIONS.

Routine house to house inspections were not carried out but inspections made upon receipt of complaints resulted in the service of 19 informal notices. 21 inspections were made in connection with overcrowding.

Under the provisions of the Housing Acts, once a local authority is satisfied that a house is in any respect unfit for human habitation, they must serve on the person having control of the house, either a notice requiring him to repair it, or a Notice preliminary to a Demolition Order; they can only serve a Demolition Order if satisfied that the house is not worth the cost of repair.

For the purpose of determining whether an unfit house is capable of being rendered fit at a reasonable expense regard must be had to the estimated cost of the works necessary to render it fit, and the estimated value of the house when the works are completed. It is usual to assess the value of a house on the actual financial return to the owner, *i.e.*, net annual income multiplied by a suitable "year's purchase figure," and if the estimated cost of repairs exceeds 50 per cent. of this value, such cost may be considered to be unreasonable.

The deciding factor as to whether an individual unfit house shall be dealt with under Section 9 (Repair) or Section 11 (Demolition) is that of expense of carrying out the works, and it will accordingly be appreciated that with building and repair costs treble pre-war figures, and pre-war rents unchanged, the vast majority of unfit houses in this district requiring other than minor repairs will fall to be dealt with under the Demolition Section of the Housing Act. In view of this and the inadequacy of the Council's Building Licensing "ceiling," very little is being done to enforce major repairs, and housing conditions generally are progressively deteriorating; this policy must eventually lead to an increase in the number of houses which fall beyond repair and become suitable only for demolition, with a consequent increase in the number of new houses to be provided.

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

### ANIMAL CARCASSES.

Routine inspections of all animals slaughtered were continued throughout the year at the Ministry of Food Slaughter House at Ringwood, involving the detailed examination of all carcasses and offal. 309 visits were made for this purpose.

The total number of carcasses inspected at the Slaughter House was 3,232, made up as follows:—

Cattle excluding cows	..	689
Cows	.. ..	357
Calves	.. ..	410
Sheep and Lambs	.. ..	1514
Pigs	.. ..	262
		<hr/>
		3232

As a result of these examinations 35,911 lbs. of meat were condemned as unfit for human consumption; diseases and weights are :—

<i>Disease or Condition</i>	<i>Weight in lbs.</i>
Tuberculosis .. ..	18211
Distomatosis .. ..	2944
Septicaemia .. ..	2621
Fevered .. ..	2493

Fluke .. ..	1078
Distoma and Angioma .. ..	783
Swine Fever .. ..	700
Physicked and Dropsical .. ..	695
Bruised .. ..	628
Dropsical .. ..	613
Emaciation .. ..	597
Pyraemia .. ..	525
Pericarditis .. ..	507
Physicked Odour .. ..	424
Angioma .. ..	378
T.B. Distomatosis and Angioma ..	297
C. Bovis .. ..	284
Emaciation and Dropsy .. ..	204
Distoma and T.B. .. ..	193
C. Bovis and T.B. .. ..	192
Imperfect Bleeding .. ..	159
Abscess .. ..	156
Actinomycosis .. ..	146
Dropsy and Imperfect Setting ..	139
Jaundice .. ..	126
Cirrhosis and Distomatosis .. ..	125
T.B. Actinomycosis and C. Bovis ..	91
Inflammation .. ..	89
Angioma, Distoma and Abscess ..	88
Immaturity .. ..	57
Actinomycosis and T.B. .. ..	46
Strongylosis .. ..	41
T.B. and Regurgitated Stomach ..	37
Uraemia .. ..	34
Melanosis .. ..	26
Cirrhosis .. ..	24
Mammitis .. ..	22
Abscess and T.B. .. ..	20
T.B. and Hydatid Cyst .. ..	19
Tumour .. ..	19
Fracture .. ..	15
Nephritis .. ..	12
Fatty Degeneration .. ..	12
Hydatid Cyst .. ..	12
Cystic .. ..	8
Peritonitis .. ..	7
Growth .. ..	6
Blood Splashed .. ..	5
Endocarditis .. ..	3



The following summary shows the amount of meat condemned during the previous four years:—

1950	..	..	..	50,307 lbs.
1949	..	..	..	33,227 lbs.
1948	..	..	..	19,218 lbs.
1947	..	..	..	20,992 lbs.

#### OTHER FOODS.

130 visits were made in connection with the examination of foodstuffs at food shops and stores, the quantities found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered were as follows:—

Fruit, various	..	..	12	bottles
Fruit, various	..	..	122	tins
Figs	..	..	2	packets
Cheese	..	..	1	lb.
Meat, various	..	..	130	tins
Vegetables, various	..	..	19	tins
Fish, various	..	..	54	tins
Fish, various	..	..	8	stone
Fish Paste	..	..	5	tins
Crab	..	..	3½	ozs.
Milk	..	..	33	cases
Milk	..	..	122	tins
Meat, various	..	..	312	lbs.
Rabbits	..	..	61	lbs.
Sugar	..	..	3½	lbs.
Cockles	..	..	1	jar
Damson Jam	..	..	7	lbs.
Pea Soup	..	..	2	lbs.
Peas	..	..	2	lbs.
Apples, quartered	..	..	2	lbs.
Apricots	..	..	1	lb.
Apples	..	..	1	lb. 9 ozs.
Turnips	..	..	3½	lbs.
Onion Powder	..	..	23	packets
Processed Peas	..	..	1	lb.
Minced Meat	..	..	14½	ozs.

#### SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS.

Under the provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, 22 licences were issued to slaughtermen. Three slaughter house licences were renewed and 1 knacker's yard licence.



## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

664 inspections were made in connection with food premises as follows:—

	<i>Food Shops</i>	<i>Bake-houses</i>	<i>Restaurant kitchens</i>	<i>Ice-cream Premises</i>	<i>Preserved Food Premises</i>	<i>Market Stalls</i>	<i>Miscellaneous</i>
No. on Register	161	18	26	76	39	—	—
Inspections made	146	35	77	84	12	235	75

## LICENSED PREMISES

53 inspections of licensed premises were made during the year, particular regard being paid to sanitary accommodation and rooms used for the preparation of food.

## ICE CREAM.

117 samples of Ice Cream were collected during the year for bacteriological examination and methylene blue test involving 168 visits; in cases where the bacteriologist's reports were considered to be unsatisfactory detailed investigations were made into the manufacture and handling of the ices. The samples were graded by the Bacteriologist as follows:—

Grade 1	..	..	107
Grade 2	..	..	4
Grade 3	..	..	3
Grade 4	..	..	2
No test—faulty sample	..	..	1
			<hr/> 117

Under the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947, no bacteriological standards are officially laid down for Ice Cream. The Ministry has, however, indicated that though there is no known test sufficiently reliable for use as a statutory test of its contamination with non-pathogenic organisms bacteriological tests may usefully be employed as an indication of possible faulty methods although no test has yet been devised of the safety of Ice Cream. Plate count, presence or absence of presumptive *B. coli* and standardised methylene blue reduction tests are the methods most used by bacteriologists.

## MILK AND DAIRIES.

Number of Registered Distributors	..	10
New Registrations made during the year		—
Inspections made	.. ..	95
Informal Notices served	.. ..	2
Samples of Milk collected	.. ..	32
Samples of milk bottle rinses collected		—

## THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

The Council exercise the functions of the County Council respecting the issue of licences in respect of pasteurising and sterilizing establishments.

There is one pasteurising establishment in the district licensed to retail Pasteurized and Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurized).

Three Dealers' licences authorising the use of the special designation "Pasteurized" were issued during the year.

## THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

Five Dealers' licences authorising the use of the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" were issued during the year.

## MOVABLE DWELLINGS.

No. of licensed movable dwelling sites on register .. .. .	92
No. of licensed movable dwellings (other than sites) on register .. .. .	11
No. of inspections made .. .. .	444
Applications for licences received during the year .. .. .	35
No. of applications refused .. .. .	7

## GIPSY CAMPS.

There are a number of gipsy encampments in the district, including one on Forestry Commission Land. Routine inspections are made to ensure that the sites are well maintained and free from nuisance. 35 inspections were made during the year.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Inspections made .. .. .	21
Premises disinfected .. .. .	13
Library Books destroyed .. .. .	Nil

## VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Premises disinfested by Council (bugs and fleas) .. .. .	3
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## SHOPS ACT.

Number on Register .. .. .	280
Inspections made .. .. .	141
Certificates of exemption issued .. .. .	6

## FACTORIES ACT.

The District Council is responsible for enforcing the provisions relating to sanitary conveniences in all factories and the provisions

dealing with cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation and drainage of floors in those factories not using mechanical power.

Number on Register	..	..	151
Inspections made	..	..	189

## RATS AND MICE.

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, came into operation on the 31st March, 1950 and repealed the 1919 Act. The Prevention of Damage by Pests (Threshing and Dismantling of Ricks) Regulation, 1950, came into force in July, 1950.

This Act and Regulations made thereunder are enforceable by local authorities who are required to take such steps as may be necessary to secure as far as practicable that the district is free from rats and mice.

No rodent operatives are employed. Inspections are made upon receipt of complaints and disinfestation works carried out wherever necessary, the cost being recovered from the occupants.

44 complaints were received of infested premises involving 373 visits.

## STORAGE OF PETROLEUM AND CARBIDE.

Number of premises on register	..	86
Inspections made	.. ..	115

## BUILDING BYELAWS.

### PLANS:

Number of plans received	..	..	411
Number of plans approved	..	..	248
Number of plans—no objection	..	109	
Number of plans rejected	..	..	44
Number of plans withdrawn	..	..	1
Number of plans—New Street Byelaws	..	3	
Number of cases where relaxation of Byelaws granted	..	..	6

### INSPECTIONS.

Inspection of foundations	..	..	256
Inspections of damp proof courses	..	242	
Number of water tests applied	..	372	
Inspections of completed works	..	251	
Miscellaneous inspections	..	..	117

### CONTRAVENTIONS.

Contraventions of Building Byelaws	..	21
Number of Notices served	..	21
Number of Statutory Notices served	..	2
Number of Notices complied with	..	24



## TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 1947.

The department deals with all development applications and maintains the Planning Register and Planning Index Maps.

Much time is spent in interviewing callers and advising on planning matters generally, including the types of development permitted under Article 3 of the General Development Order, 1950.

During the year 375 visits and inspections were made.

## ESTATES MAINTENANCE.

At the 31st December, 1951, the Council had a total of 887 occupied dwellings made up as shewn below; the proper maintenance of these scattered estates is extremely difficult.

Permanent Houses	..	..	424
Prefabricated Houses	..	..	50
Requisitioned Houses (family units)	..	..	40
Converted Huts (family units)	..	..	350
Huts awaiting conversion at 31.12.51	..	..	23

No. of visits made in connection with maintenance works:—

Permanent Houses	..	..	756
Prefabricated Bungalows	..	..	62
Requisitioned Houses	..	..	103
Converted Huts	..	..	600
Other Council Property	..	..	18

The provision of temporary housing accommodation has continued and further huts on disused airfields taken over for conversion.

At the end of the year the position regarding this Council's occupied family units on the various camp sites was as follows:—

Holmsley (Christchurch East Parish)	..	59
Ibsley (Harbridge and Ibsley Parish)	..	126
Ibsley (Ellingham Parish)	..	16
Hurn (Hurn Parish)	..	82
Hurn (Sopley Parish)	..	59
Godshill (Fordingbridge Parish)	..	3
Ashley (St. Leonards and St. Ives Parish)	..	5

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350

## BUILDING LICENCES

No. of Repair Licence Applications received	..	212
No. of Repair Licence Applications approved	..	142
No. of Repair Licence Applications refused	..	55
Total Value of Repair Licences issued	..	£37,478
Total number of inspections and visits made	..	278



## CONTRAVENTIONS.

Proceedings were instituted during the year in respect of one licensing contravention under Defence Regulation 56A; the case was proved and the defendant fined £50, plus 15 guineas costs.

## SMALL DWELLING LICENCES.

No. of Small Dwelling Licence Applications received during the year .. .. .	43
No. of outstanding Small Dwelling Licence Applications on Committee List at end of year .. ..	99
No. of Small Dwelling Licences approved .. ..	14
Total number of dwellings for which licences have been authorised by the Council to date .. ..	182
Total number of dwellings for which licences have been issued by the Council to date (including 14 withdrawn or rendered inoperative during years 1945/46)	181
Number of dwellings completed to date .. ..	157
Number of dwellings in course of erection .. ..	8
Number of dwellings not yet commenced but licence still operative .. .. .	2
Number of inspections and visits made .. ..	58

## CIVIL DEFENCE.

1. Rescue Section.
2. Civil Defence (Demolition and Repair Services) Regulations, 1950.
3. Civil Defence (Sewerage) Regulations, 1949.

I am responsible for duties in connection with these Civil Defence and Emergency Schemes which are briefly as follows:—

## RESCUE SECTION.

The organisation and training of Rescue Sections in the district.

Training accommodation, equipment and rescue vehicles will eventually be required but the number of volunteers enrolled for this Section remains at 3.

## DEMOLITION AND REPAIR SERVICES.

The setting up of an organisation for carrying out immediate protective repairs to war damaged premises; removal of débris and clearance of roads; dealing with dangerous buildings and the salvaging and storage of building materials.

SALVAGE OF HOUSEHOLD CHATTELS.

The removal and storage of household chattels from damaged dwellings.

EMERGENCY SEWERAGE SERVICE.

The maintenance of essential sewerage and sewage disposal services.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

RONALD A. UPSTONE,  
*Senior Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.*